



Apparatus Positioning at a Recent Fourth Alarm Fire



Brooklyn Box 4-4 1550 – 12/16/2022

Recently, Brooklyn units operated at a fire in a large six-story H-Type MD. The fire originated on the fifth floor and extended into the cockloft space. A fourth alarm assignment was used to control this fire. This tip from training will discuss the proper apparatus positioning which took place by both engine and ladder company chauffeurs.

- Our ability to provide a timely positive water source is vital to a successful fire attack.
- With hydrants often blocked or difficult to access, innovative methods and out of the box thinking is often necessary. At this fire an engine chauffer carefully positioned the apparatus on the sidewalk to access a hydrant.
- Similar to apparatus positioning at manhole fires, be mindful of what is below (gratings, cellar doors, etc.) and avoid an area that may not support its weight.
- While operating at fires in H-Type MD's it is imperative to keep the throat of the building clear for a tower ladder (TL). This is necessary in the event of a victim rescue/firefighter emergency egress or for the use the TL's large caliber stream.
- Multiple aerial ladders should be positioned to the roof. In the event emergency roof egress is necessary, this will allow for an avenue of escape. Roof conditions can change without warning, especially during an advanced cockloft fire.

As always, the thinking, well trained firefighter is our greatest asset, this often begins with our chauffeurs.